



ACADEMY FOR URBAN LEADERSHIP
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
612 AMBOY AVE. PERTH AMBOY, NJ
Wednesday, May 10, 2023

The meeting was called to order at 6:55 pm and presided over by Mr. Bishop-Mbachu.

I. CALL TO ORDER

In accordance with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act, *N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq.*, notice of this meeting has been publicized by having the date, time and location of the meeting posted at the school, on the school website and advertised in the Home News Tribune which has been designated as the Board's official newspaper within the legal time required. Time will be allotted for public comment at this meeting.

II. FLAG SALUTE

I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible with liberty and justice for all.

III. MISSION STATEMENT

To employ an educational design and experience that merges the highest standards of academic excellence while fostering convictions and commitment to social and economic justice. The school acknowledges that both family and community involvement are integral to the student's academic achievement level, and will focus on fostering strong relationships between the school, family and community. Through these partnerships, the school will strive to create a nurturing environment by providing each student with the five resources deemed necessary for healthy child development by the President's Summit for America's Future. These include: a one-on-one relationship with a caring adult, a safe place to learn and grow, a healthy start, a marketable skill through effective education, and a chance to give back to peers and the community.

In order to provide a quality education, the curriculum offered will involve rigorous academics with a holistic approach to education. Special emphasis will be placed on service learning and espousing the importance of civic and social responsibility. The development of character, leadership skills, conflict resolution abilities, and community responsibility will be stressed to provide the students with the necessary tools to become contributing members of a democratic society.

IV. ROLL CALL

Board Members:

Mr. Joshua Bishop-Mbachu - President - Present
Ms. Lisette Vilanova – Vice President - Present
Vacancy – Corporate Secretary
Ms. Elba Ceballo - Present
Ms. Eloisa Hernandez - Excused
Ms. Yadira Puntiel - Present (Non-voting)
Ms. Michelle Roman - Present (L:7:01PM)
Mr. Saad Syed - Present

Additional Attendees:

Dr. Jeff White – Chief Lead Administrator - Present
Ms. Joyel Furges - Principal - Present
Ms. Tobi Knehr- Interim School Administrator - Present
Mr. Nathaniel Higgins - Dean of Culture of Climate - Excused
Ms. Bernadette Pinto – Interim BA/Board Secretary - Present
Ms. Patricia Bombelyn - Board Attorney - Present

V. PUBLIC COMMENTS

The Board President invites members of the public to present any comments to the Board (limited to 3 minutes). - No Public Comments

VI. CHIEF LEAD ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Public bodies may meet in closed session when the matters under discussion are:

- (1) Matters made confidential by state, federal law or rule by court.
- (2) Disclosure would result in an unwarranted invasion of individual privacy, unless the person affected consents in writing.
- (3) Disclosure would impair the body's right to receive federal or state funds.
- (4) Collective bargaining.
- (5) Lease or acquisition of property, setting of banking rates, investment of public funds if disclosure would harm the public interest.
- (6) Investigations into violations of law.
- (7) Strategies to protect public security. Pending, ongoing or anticipated litigation or contract negotiation, including attorney-client privilege. The threat of litigation must be more than theoretical for this exemption to apply.

- (8) Personnel matters affecting employees of the public bodies, unless all parties request or consent to a public hearing. Prior to discussion of personnel, affected employees must be given notice, known as a Rice notice, which gives the employee the right to request a public hearing.
- (9) Proceedings that could result in a suspension, civil penalty, or loss of a license or permit.

Discussion Items:

- 1. Attorney - Client Privilege
- 2. Personnel
- 3. Kelly vs. AUL
- 4. Collective Bargaining Unit

Motion: Ms. Vilanova Second: Ms. Syed

Voice Vote: All In Favor: 6; Opposed: 0

The Board went into Executive Session at 6:02 pm.

Motion: Ms. Roman; Second: Ms. Vilanova

Voice Vote: All In Favor: 4; Opposed: 0

The Board came out of Executive Session at 6:48 pm

VII. MOTIONS – Consent Agenda

The Chief Lead Administrator recommends the following items for approval:

Academic Excellence

- 1. Move that the Board of Trustees, under the recommendation of the Chief Lead Administrator, approve the following field trip:

Location	Date	# of Students/Staff	Responsible Person	Cost
Dave and Busters Woodbridge, NJ	May 31, 2023	40 AUL students (Grades 7-12) / 5 Chaperones (Including Parent Chaperone)	Mabel Leonardo	Total Costs: \$ 1,670.77 (Transportation Costs \$450.00 / Event Costs: 1220.77 (General Funds)

Motion: Ms. Roman Second: Ms. Ceballo

21	Kirner-DePeri, Cara	Guidance Counselor	No	HS
22	Stark, Emma	Guidance Counselor	No	MS
23	Frost, Douglas	Mathematics Teacher	Yes	HS
24	Jamali, Munira	Mathematics Teacher	Yes	HS
25	Mukherjee, Nabaneeta	Science Teacher	Yes	HS
26	Berberich, Rose Ann	Social Studies Teacher	Yes	HS
27	Komonsinki, Susan	School Nurse	No	HS
28	Leonardo, Mabel	Social Worker	Yes	HS
29	Gioia, Bernadette	Social Studies Teacher	Yes	HS

Motion: Mr. Syed Second: Ms. Ceballo

**All in Favor: 5: Mr. Bishop, Ms. Vilanova, Ms. Ceballo, Ms. Roman, Mr. Syed;
Abstained: 0; Opposed: 0 Motion Passed**

2. Move that the Board of Trustees, under the recommendation of the Chief Lead Administrator approve that the following Non-Certificated Staff Members be offered a contract and be reappointed for the 2023-2024 school year:

#	Full Name	Job Title	Streamline Tenure	Campus
1	Neal, Patricia	Special Education Paraprofessional	No	MS
2	Pak, Meltem	Paraprofessional	No	HS
3	Rodriguez, Raquel	Bilingual Paraprofessional	No	HS
4	Cardona, Irys	PT Lunch Aide	No	HS
5	Lopez Jumelles, Lourdes	PT Lunch Aide	No	HS
6	Santiago, Evelyn	PT Lunch Aide	No	MS
7	Suarez Mendez, Victoria	FT Food Handler	No	HS
8	Vega, Carmen	FT Food Handler	No	MS

9	Sena, Ariana	Building-Based Substitute Teacher	No	HS
10	Quesada, Lesly	Building-Based Substitute Teacher	No	HS
11	Vargas, Luis	Executive Assistant to the Chief Lead Administrator	Yes	HS
12	Leonardo, Edgar	Bookkeeper	No	HS
13	Velez, Aileen	Administrative Assistant	Yes	HS
14	Williams, Abraham	Technology Coordinator	No	HS
15	Rodriguez, Miriam	Human Resources Generalist	No	HS
16	Pena, Solanyi	Student Recruitment Specialist	No	HS
17	Sena, Maria	Attendance Officer	Yes	HS
18	Pineiro, Ada	School Nurse RN	No	HS
19	Blanco, Blanca	Report Specialist	No	HS
21	Santiago, Florez	Custodian	No	HS
22	Ramirez Rojas, Fermin	Custodian	No	MS
23	Flores, Santiago	Custodian	No	HS
24	Chabala, Luisa	Part-time Custodian	No	HS
25	De Leon, Ysabel	Part-time Custodian	No	HS
26	Bueno, Joel	Part-Time IT Support Assistant	No	HS
27	Puntiel, Pablo R.	Security Officer	No	HS
28	Bullock, Lynn	Security Officer	No	MS
29	Rojas, Jeriel	Security Officer	No	HS
30	Cartagena, Luis	Security Officer	No	HS
31	Abiodun, Afeez	Administrative Assistant to the Business Administrator	No	HS
32	DeJesus, Claudia	Administrative Assistant	No	MS
33	Sosa, Fausto	Head Custodian	Yes	MS/HS
34	Higgins, Nathaniel	Dean of Culture and Climate	No	MS/HS

35	Valentin, Lucila	Parent Outreach Coordinator	Yes	MS/HS
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Motion: Ms. Ceballo Second: Ms. Vilanova

All in Favor: 5: Mr. Bishop, Ms. Vilanova, Ms. Ceballo, Ms. Roman, Mr. Syed;

Abstained: 0; Opposed: 0

Motion Passed

3. Move that the Board of Trustees, under the recommendation of the Chief Lead Administrator, approve that the following Administrators be offered a contract and be reappointed for the 2023-2024 school year:

#	Full Name	Job Title	Streamline Tenure	Campus
1	Joyel Furges	Principal	No	HS
2	Tobi Knehr	Interim Middle School Administrator	No	MS

Motion: Ms. Vilanova Second: Ms. Ceballo

All in Favor: 5: Mr. Bishop, Ms. Vilanova, Ms. Ceballo, Ms. Roman, Mr. Syed;

Abstained: 0; Opposed: 0

Motion Passed

4. Move that the Board of Trustees, under the recommendation of the Chief Lead Administrator, approve that the following Staff Members be offered streamline tenure and a contract and be reappointed for the 2023-2024 school year:

#	Full Name	Job Title	Streamline Tenure	Campus
1	Ryan Spero	Social Studies Teacher	Yes	HS
2	Susan Spiecker	Art Teacher	Yes	MS
3	Rafael Puntiel	Custodian	Yes	HS
*5	Fernandez, Ariel	Social Studies Teacher	No	HS
*20	Bonilla, Pedro	Custodian	No	MS

Motion: Ms. Ceballo Second: Mr. Syed

All in Favor: 5: Mr. Bishop, Ms. Vilanova, Ms. Ceballo, Ms. Roman, Mr. Syed;

Abstained: 0; Opposed: 0

Motion Passed

5. Move that the Board of Trustees, under the recommendation of the Lead Administrator, approve the following appointment:

Candidate Name	Position Title	Prorated Salary	Start Date
Lauren Rosenfield	Social Worker (Replacing Delores Johnson)	\$60,000.00 / year (10 Months)	June 1, 2023

Motion: Ms. Roman Second: Ms. Ceballo

**All in Favor: 5: Mr. Bishop, Ms. Vilanova, Ms. Ceballo, Ms. Roman, Mr. Syed;
Abstained: 0; Opposed: 0 Motion Passed**

6. Move that the Board of Trustees, under the recommendation of the Lead Administrator, approve the following appointment:

Candidate Name	Position Title	Daily Rate	Start Date
Aishah A. Sabur	Building - Based Substitute Teacher	\$200.00	September 1, 2023

Motion: Ms. Roman **Second: Ms. Vilanova**

**All in Favor: 5: Mr. Bishop, Ms. Vilanova, Ms. Ceballo, Ms. Roman, Mr. Syed;
Abstained: 0; Opposed: 0 Motion Passed**

7. Move that the Board of Trustees, under the recommendation of the Chief Lead Administrator, approve the following Job Postings for the 2023-2024 21st Century Summer School Program:

Academy for Urban Leadership Charter School:

- o Arts & Crafts
- o Coding
- o Culinary
- o Gaming
- o Gardening
- o Performing Arts
- o Sports

- o Summer Site Coordinator
- o Data Clerk
- o Youth Helpers (2)

Assumption Catholic School:

- o Arts & Crafts
- o Culinary
- o Language Arts Enrichment
- o Math Enrichment
- o Recreation/Sports
- o STEM Enrichment
- o Youth Helpers (3)
- o Summer Site Coordinator

Motion: Mr. Syed Second: Ms. Ceballo

**All in Favor: 5: Mr. Bishop, Ms. Vilanova, Ms. Ceballo, Ms. Roman, Mr. Syed;
Abstained: 0; Opposed: 0 Motion Passed**

Finance and Facilities

1. Move that the Board of Trustees, under the recommendation of the Chief Lead Administrator, approve the Amendments to the ESSER II grant and subgrants as follows,

Current Approved Grant Allocation / Use	Amended Grant Allocation / Use
Main Grant 100-100 - Extended Day / Extended Year \$116,266 100-600 APEX - \$110,800 (Used \$60,000) Chromebooks - \$209,141 (Used \$102,845) LinkIt - \$26,775 (Used \$26,775) Miscellaneous Instructional Supplies - \$3,325	Main Grant 100-100 - Extended Day / Extended Year \$35,640 100-600 APEX - Used \$60,000 Linkit - Used \$26,775 Chromebooks - \$130,345 (\$27,500 additional 75 chromebooks)

(Difference of Used Funds - \$158,891) 200-500 HVAC- (Used \$12,940) & Windows = \$22,940 Hotspots - \$7,200 (approved 2/23/23) Advertising - (Used \$7,450) 200-600 Cleaning Supplies - \$12,278 200-300 Curriculum Developer - \$10,000 400-720 Minor Renovations - \$28,940	Instructional supplies: novels, SS, Math & ELA Curriculum - \$193,325 200-500 Repairs to HVAC & windows - \$53,161 (Used \$12,940) Hotspots for students with connectivity issues - \$7,200 (no change) Billboards, ads, job posting ads and flyers to recruit teaching staff and students - \$18,450 200-600 Cleaning Supplies - \$28,278 (Used -\$12,278) Refreshments for summer program - \$5,400 200-300 Curriculum Developer / ECC Program Assessment and Developer - \$7,500 (Used) \$44,544 400-720 Minor Renovations - \$38,940
Learning Acceleration 100-100 5 Science Teachers for STEM afterschool and summer academies, and 1:1 tutoring 3 English Teachers for ELA/Literacy afterschool and summer academies, and 1:1 tutoring - \$34,024 100-600 Link It and APEX to support Learning Environment - \$11,342	100-100 18 Teachers summer academies, and 1:1 tutoring- \$34,560 100-600 Instructional materials to support summer academies - \$10,806
Mental Health 200-300 The Passion Care Center - \$45,000 (Used \$1,500)	200-300 Passion Care Center - \$20,356 (Used \$1,500) In-school assembly to related to SEL, mental health - \$3,500 Counseling Materials/Items (Books, Resources) - \$3,000

	Summer Hours - School Counselors / SW - \$12,960.00
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Motion: Ms. Vilanova

Second: Ms. Roman

All in Favor: 5: Mr. Bishop, Ms. Vilanova, Ms. Ceballo, Ms. Roman, Mr. Syed;

Abstained: 0; Opposed: 0

Motion Passed

EXECUTIVE TEAM

Move that the Board of Trustees, under the recommendation of the Chief Lead Administrator, approve the first readings of the following policies:

Policy 4432 – Sick Leave - Support Staff Members

Policy 4439 – Bereavement Leave - Support Staff Members

Policy 4433 - Vacation Day Policy for 12 month, employees

VIII. OTHER MOTIONS

1. Resolved, That The Board of Trustees Hereby Approves And Ratifies the Attached Collective Negotiations Agreement with the Academy Urban Leadership Education Association for the Period of July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2026.

Motion: Ms. Roman

Second: Ms. Vilanova

All in Favor: 5: Mr. Bishop, Ms. Vilanova, Ms. Ceballo, Ms. Roman, Mr. Syed;

Abstained: 0; Opposed: 0

Motion Passed

2. Motion to appoint BOT Election Committee Ms. Roman and Mr. Syed as co-chairs.

Motion: Ms. Roman

Second: Ms. Vilanova

All in Favor: 5: Mr. Bishop, Ms. Vilanova, Ms. Ceballo, Ms. Roman, Mr. Syed;

Abstained: 0; Opposed: 0

Motion Passed

IX. PUBLIC COMMENTS

The Board President invites members of the public to present any additional comments to the Board. - No Public Comments

X. ADJOURNMENT

The Board President entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:53 pm.

Motion: Ms. Vilanova; Second: Ms. Roman
Voice Vote: All In Favor: 5; Opposed: 0